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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/311,148	05/13/1999	TETSURO MOTOYAMA	5244-0092-2	9858

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EXAMINER

TRAN, MYLINH T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2174

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/311,148

Applicant(s)

MOTOYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Mylinh T Tran

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Amendment filed 10/07/02.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's Amendment filed on 10/07/02 has been entered and carefully considered. Claims 1, 8, 15 and 22 have been amended. However, Limitations of amended claims have not been found to be patentable over newly discovered prior art of record, therefore, claims 1-28 are rejected under the new ground of rejection as set forth below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boulton et al. [US. 5,566,291].

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-17, 19-24 and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Boulton et al. [US. 5,566,291].

As to claims 1, 8, 15 and 22, Boulton et al. discloses an interface of a target application, the interface comprising a plurality of operations to be selected by a user (column 3, lines 60-67, column 4, lines 15-30 and column 5, lines 36-44); Boulton et al. cites "a user may activate an enter feedback mode command in a computer environment to provide feedback in a feedback interface. A feedback record is created and the user's context within a product,

process, service, or issue to which the feedback refers is recorded in the feedback record" (see abstract); a monitoring unit configured to directly monitor user selections of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user (column 4, lines 47-55); and to generate a log of the monitored data, the log indicating the selections of the plurality of operations by the user (Boulton et al. cites "Selected attributes, the time at which the feedback is made, the physical location and identity of the user, and comments by the user are recorded in the feedback record. A feedback visualizer for a reviewer for organizing and presenting user feedback receives feedback from users...The visualizer identifies a reviewer's visualization preferences, which include indications of feedback attributes that the reviewer desires to review" (see abstract); and a communicating device configured to communicate the log of the monitored data to a remote site (column 12, lines 46-56).

As to claims 2, 9, 16 and 23, Boulton et al. shows the target application is a software application and the interface is a display screen of the software application (column 5, lines 8-18 and column 15, lines 40-50).

As to claims 3, 10, 17 and 24, Boulton et al. teaches the target application is an image forming device and the interface is an operation panel of the image forming device (column 10, lines 35-46).

As to claims 4, 11, 18 and 25, Boulton et al. shows "the target application is an appliance and the interface is an operation panel of the appliance" (column 8, lines 55-64).

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As to claims 5, 12, 19 and 26, Boulton et al. also teaches the communicating device sends the log of the monitored data when the user exits the target application (column 12, lines 47-56).

As to claims 6, 13, 20 and 27, Boulton et al. also shows a setting unit configured to set a number of sessions of the target application to be executed by the user prior to the communicating device communicating the log of the monitored data (column 3, lines 18-32).

As to claims 7, 14, 21 and 28, Boulton et al. discloses the communicating device communicates the log of the monitored data by Internet mail (column 39, lines 50-65).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

Conclusion

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires fax a response, (703) 746-7238, may be used for formal After Final communications, (703) 746-7239 for Official communications, or (703) 746-7240 for Non-Official or draft communications. NOTE, A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

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Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for information facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mylinh Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-1304. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8.00AM to 6.30PM

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner 's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640,

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

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Mylinh Tran

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Kristine Kincaid
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